

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Legislature to Honor Local Basketball Champions

Lassa, Shankland resolutions congratulate UWSP, SPASH teams

MADISON – Two local basketball teams will be honored by the Wisconsin Legislature for bringing championship trophies home to Stevens Point. Senator Julie Lassa (D-Stevens Point) and Representative Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) introduced joint resolutions today congratulating the basketball teams of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and Stevens Point Area Senior High for their remarkable seasons.

"The UWSP men and SPASH boys made Stevens Point the new Titletown this season, and it's a privilege to be able to tout their accomplishments before the entire State Legislature," Sen. Lassa said. "These two fine groups of student athletes have brought honor to their schools, our community, and our state."

"We, along with the Stevens Point community, were excited to follow the Pointers and the Panthers during their seasons and cheer for them in the championship games," said Rep. Shankland. "These teams made their hometown proud and soon the entire Wisconsin State Legislature will join us in recognizing their successes."

The UWSP Pointers men's basketball team won the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Basketball National Championship title, becoming one of only four collegiate programs to have won four NCAA Division III Championships in men's basketball. The Pointers finished the season with a 27–5 record, won all but one of their NCAA tournament games by a double–digit margin, and ended the season ranked first in the Division III poll.

The SPASH Panthers varsity boys' team basketball team won the 2015 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Division I State Championship title, their first state title since 1994. The Panthers finished the season with a 27–1 record, including a 12–0 record in the Wisconsin Valley Conference. The team set a state tournament record by scoring 11 three–pointers in the semifinal game.

"These teams exemplified the fortitude, tenacity and integrity that we admire in great student athletes, and we couldn't be more proud of their accomplishments this season," Sen. Lassa said.

"Congratulations to the players and coaches who made these wins happen. I wish the Pointers and Panthers the best of luck in their future seasons, and am confident we will see more Stevens Point basketball championships to come," said Rep. Shankland.